

# Jerry Brown in dad's old digs, renovated governor's mansion

By Matier & Ross

December 20, 2015 Updated: December 20, 2015 5:30pm



Photo: Michael Macor, The Chronicle

Gov. Jerry Brown and wife Anne Gust-Brown stand in front of the Governor's Mansion near the State Capitol in June 2014.

Now that it's undergone \$4.1 million in renovations, Gov. **Jerry Brown** has moved into the old governor's mansion occupied by his late father, **Pat Brown**, almost a half century ago.

The last governor who lived in the old Victorian at 1526 H St. in Sacramento was **Ronald Reagan**, who moved out after his wife, **Nancy**, complained the place was a firetrap.

"He's getting very sentimental in his mature years," said Brown's cousin and former San Francisco Public Defender **Jeff Brown**, who recalls visiting the mansion in the 1960s when it didn't even have a shower.

Jerry Brown was already college-bound by the time his family moved into the house at 16th and H streets, but he was very much determined to leave it as a legacy for future governors.

But the 15-bedroom, seven-bathroom home — which for decades has primarily served as a state museum — still needs some new drapes and lots of furnishings.

The Governor's Residence Foundation, which has been paying for Brown's \$3,000-a-month Sacramento loft, and the protocol committee that raised heavily for his 2011 inaugural are helping foot the bill.

The tax-exempt, nonprofit Residence Foundation, whose latest IRS report shows it raised \$384,707 between 2009 and 2013, is not required to disclose its donors. However, just last month the California State Protocol Foundation raised \$155,000 from the California Chamber of Commerce's Political Action Committee, Disney Worldwide, Farmers Insurance, USAA Insurance and the California Association of Health Facilities, according to statements on file with the secretary of state.

"I do know they need a new TV, because the one on the first floor was from the 1960s and had rabbit ears," Department of Finance Deputy Director **H.D. Palmer** said.



Photo: Associated Press

A 1980 file photo of former California governors Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, right, and his son Jerry Brown.

Incidentally, the governor and his wife, **Anne Gust Brown**, made a point of waiting until their return from the climate change conference in Paris to make their move from the loft to the mansion — so will they be reducing their carbon footprint?

“I think that’s the hope,” says state Department of General Services Deputy Director **Brian Ferguson**, whose office oversaw much of the renovation — including the installation of solar power, plus new heating, air conditioning and other elements intended to earn it LEED certification.

“It’s about as green as a 130-year-old building can be,” he said.